SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, the fact is that it has already been given in the reply to the question, that the Central Government had given Rs. 8 lakhs as assistance for this project and out of these eight lakhs, 4,89, 500 have been spent by them and they have not spent that money, may be because of some delay in the implementation of that project. That money is lying with them. Unless they spent that money how can they come with fresh proposals for some more allotment?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question which the honourable Member has put is slightly different. What he wanted to know is whether the Central Government has asked the State Government why they have not spent the money which has been allotted to them. That is the question.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, as a matter of fact the State Government is obliged to send a statement of expenditure and they have sent the statement of expenditure, I think, very recently only, in the month of January along with a demand for some more money for the same project. The State Government has not given any specific reason for not utilizing that mney.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Why do you bother him with all these questions? He is busy with other questions.

SHRI JAGADISH JANI: *Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to know whether the Government has finalized the Central allocation proposed to be made for the Chandaka Elephant Sanctuary in 1986-87 and, if so, the allocation proposed to be made and what are the various schemes proposed to be implemented for the development of the Chandaka Elephant Sanctuary during the Seventh Plan.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: It sounds more or less like Hindi.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: Sir, out of the items for which the State Government has sent proposals, the items which have been approved by the Central Government are: electric fencing over a 60 kilometre length—Rs. 3 lakhs; habitat improvement—Rs. 2 lakhs; facilitis like construction of roads, etc. For all this the total amount comes to Rs. 16 lakhs. Out of the Rs. 16 lakhs Rs. 8 lakhs were provided by the Central Government. No separate allocation for this sanctuary is made. It all depends on the progress of the project and when the progress report is received the Central Government makes its own assessment and provides assistance to those projects.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Prashant, this question relates to Orissa. Have you anything to ask on Orissa in your supplementary?

SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Yes, Sir. I would like to ask the honourable Minister what is the number of elephant sanctuaries in the country and the total number of elephants.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The honourable Minister wants notice. Next question.... (*Interruptions*)... Yes, he wants notice. He said "Notice."

Indigenous designed digital PABX

@*166. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:†
PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the indigenously designed digital PABX by the centre for development of Telematics has been tested thoroughly for its efficiency and reliability in operation;

(b) whether Government have

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*English translation of question in Oriya.

@Previously Starred Question 106 Transferred from the 3rd March, 1986.

†The question was asked on the floor of the House by Prof. B. Ramachandra Rao.

taken action to start the production of such exchanges;

(c) what are the advantages of this PABX as compored to the existing PABX system; and

(d) what are the reasons for which the ITI was proposing to make PABXs with the French collaboration if this indigenously developed PABX is far superior?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Statement

(a) Digital Electronic PABX developed by C-DOT is now under test by the Department of Telecommunications.

(b) Department of Electronics is now finalising the list of manufacturers who have applied for production isation of this PABX.

(c) The C-DOT PABX has following advantages compared to existing stronger type PABXs.

Faster Switching of calls.

Higher traffic capacity

Several new facilities like:

Call forwarding.

Automatic call-back

Call transfer

Conference

Less maintenance and high reliability

(d) ITI has withdrawn from the French collaboration and has opted for the indigenous C-DOT technology.

PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, at the outset, I would like to congratulate the scientists and the design engineers of C-DOT for the commendable work which they have done in developing indigenously the PABX. Secondly, I would also like to appreciate the ITI which has withdrawn the French collaboration in the light of the indigenous knowhow.

My first supplementray, Sir, is how long it will take to productionise this unit, to be available to the public or the private sector in order to start productionising whether the quality of the components is available to produce indeed rugged and reliable instruments with the kind of components that we have at the present moment.

SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL: Sir, the instrument is being tested. We have received about 120 applications. After the licences are given and the production is started, maybe within one-and-a-half years' time it would be possible.

As far as the second question is concerned, the answer is in positive.

PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, now that we have this knowhow available and from the reply in part (b) it is apparent that this will be also given to the private sector, I would like to know whether this knowhow will be passed on directly by the DOT to the private sector or through the NRDC and whether the terms and conditions for the transfer are finalised.

SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL: Sir, it can be transferred to the private sector directly. If they want to take it through the NRDC also, there would not be any difficulty.

As far as the terms and conditions are concerned, they have said that they would be charging Rs. 7 lakhs for the technology and that the royalty that would be payable when the production starts is 4 per cent.

PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the C-DOT in-

tends to pursue advanced research to develop more superior PABX compared to the existing ones and whether the components are all indigenous or some of them are being imported?

SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL: Sir, this facility is brought into existence to carry on research and development in this area, and it would certainly carry on advanced research and development also. As far as the components are concerned, a discussion had taken place between the C-DOT organisations and the manufacturers of the components, and it is hoped that components also will be manufactured in such a manner as to meet the demands of manufacturing sophisticated equipment.

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Sir, I would like to know from the Minister what the projected need is of this PABX in the Seventh Five-Year plan and when we are likely to be self-sufficient in meeting the needs of the public.

SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL: Sir, this question could have been asked to the Communications Department. But at present we are trying to meet the existing needs.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR PODDAR: Sir, in answer to my unstarred question No. 2686 dated August 22, 1985 it was admitted by the Minister that the Hindustan Cables, the Madhya Pradesh State Electronics Corporation and the Department of Electronics were planning a multi-crore technology transfer deal with some foreign firms with regard to optical fibre cables and transmission systems by the telecommunication industry inspite of the fact that we have developed considerable indigenous capacity in our country. I would like to know the foreign firms with which some collaboration was contemplated?

SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL: Sir, if the hon. Chair feels that this supplementary arises out of this question, I will answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever information you have, you can give.

SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL: The fibre optics technology is the most advanced technology and it is developing in the world also. It has not developed to the extent that it can be used on a large scale in the country. As far as the foreign firms are concerned, well those who are producing are interested in selling, and we do not mind examining if there are any offers. But whether to take them or not is a decision to be taken by us, which we will take after considring all the aspects.

Fire accidents in Delhi

*167. SHRI J. K. JAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many fire accidents have taken place in Delhi so far during the year;

(b) what was the nature of the accidents;

(c) how many of these accidents occurred in hotel establishments; and

(d) what was the extent of damage caused as a result of the accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) and (b) During the year 1986, there have been 13 fire accidents in Delhi, including the one in Siddhartha Inter-Continental Hotel and the other in Shamiana (Pandal), Ashok Vihar (Phase II), where lives were lost. In addition, there were 11 other fire accidents in shops; furniture godowns etc. where the estimated extent of damage was over Rs. 1 lakh in each instance.

(c) During the year 1986; there have been five fire accidents in hotels.